GOD saue the KING.

A PROCLAMATION ANENT
Tanning and Barking of Hydes.

IAMES by the grace of GOD King of great Britanne, France, and Ireland: defender of the Faith, to Our Loveds Mesſingers, Our Shirefs in that part, conjunctlie and ſeverallie ſpecialie conſtitute; greeting, Forſamekle, As WEE out of Our Princelie and tender regaird towards the honour credite and benefite of this Our ancient Kingdome, having euer had a ſpeciall caire and regaird that the practize of Trades not formarlie knowne or truelie and vprightlie practized within the ſame, might bee broght in; and that Our Subjects might be inſtructed therein, to the intent that by their induſtrie skill and labours the Cuntrie might bee furniſhed within the ſelfe with many neceſſar commodities, whereof now a great part are broght from foraine parts to the diſcredite of this Our Kingdome and emptying of the ſame of a great deale of Treaſure yeerlie exported for that cauſe: Amongſt others Our Royall and Princelie projects in this kynd, which haue all had one happie and good ſucceſſe. WEE were pleaſed vpon one Petition exhibite vnto WS in Our Soveraine and high Court of Parliament, Concerning the vniverſall abuſe in Tanning and Barking of Leather throughout this Our whole Kingdome, To recommend to the Lords of Our Privie Counſell the order taking for reforming of the ſaid abuſe. Wherevpon the ſaids Lords having taking ſome paines and travells for trying of the ſaid abuſe and the ground and occaſions of the ſame; And they having at length conferred thereanent as weell with a number of the principall Tanners of this Our Kingdome of beſt judgement, knowledge and experience, in that trade, as with ſundrie Cordonars of good fame and credite: And all the particulars which might produce a cleare diſcoverie of the ſaid abuſe and occaſions thereof, with the meanes how the ſame might bee reformed being amplie propoſed reaſoned and diſcuſſed, In end IT was found by the ſaids Lords out of their owne reaſon and judgement, and by the declaration and confeſſion of the Tanners them ſelfes, that the abuſe and corruptions of their trade did proceed from their owne ignorance and want of skill, in the trew and perfyte forme of Tanning: And that therefore there was a neceſſitie of inbringing of Strangers to inſtruct them thereintill. Wherevpon the ſaids Lords having entered in deliberation how the ſtrangers might bee broght in; In end the charge thereof was embraced and vndertaken by Our traiſt Couſing and Counſaller IOHNE Lord ERSKENE who hath verie cairefullie behaved him ſelfe therein, and hath broght in and exhibite before the ſaids Lords the perſons particularlie vnderwritten; They are to ſay, *George Haraſon* in Durham. *Nicolas Richardſon* there. *Cuthbert Hutcheſon* elder there. *Edward Craiges* there. *Cuthbert Hutcheſon* younger there. *Ihon Robeſon* there. *Thomas Dobieſon* there. *Thomas Dobieſon* younger there. *Robert Haſard* there. and *George Lambert* there. *Iohn Heroun* in Hexem. *Reynold Milbourn* there. *Harie Tweddaill*, there. *Thomas VVallace* there. *George Ogill* there. *Philip Shilton* of Cheſter of the ſtreet. and *George VVilſoun* in Morpet. Which whole perſons are all of good skill knowledge and experience in the trade of Tanning. And vpon their great Oaths they haue promiſed to deale faithfullie and trewlie with the Tanners of this Our Kingdome, And to inſtruct them in the right forme of Tanning, and how to dreſſe their pottes. Lyke as they haue ſett doune ſome grounds how the Hydes ſhall bee dreſt and handled, from the tyme they are brogh from the Boutcheour, vntill they bee perfytlie and weell Tanned.

AS namelie they haue declared that there is a great abuſe committed by the Boutcheours, by ſlaſhing of the Hydes and cutting of ſome of the Rimme away, whereby a part of the ſubſtance of the hydes is taken away and the hydes are thereby the more apt to receiue water.

IT is requiſite that everie Tanner having a good Stock ſhall haue Two lyme-pottes at the leaſt, for changing of the hydes from one potte to another, To witt, One for greene leather, and the other for Rype leather: But if his Stock will not anſwere to Two pottes, then hee muſt refreſh the Lyme the oftner; And thoſe pottes are to bee of Sax, or Seaven foote in length, Foure foote in breadth, and foure or fyve foote deepe.

The Hydes being brought from the Boutcheour to the Tanner, they are to be caſten in freſh watter there to lye three or foure dayes, till the bloode and filth bee ſucked out and taken away.

Thereafter they are to bee put in a Lyme-potte, there to lye fyve or ſax weekes till they bee ſufficientlie lymed, And three dayes euerie weeke they are to be handled and ſighted and changed from potte to potte for eſchuing of putrifactioun, And being taken out of the lyme-pottes, they are to bee caſten in freſh water there to lye one day or one night, till the lyme bee waſhin of, Thereafter they are to bee put in a baitte of freſh watter with pigeon or Dow-dung, or Hen-pen, there to lye eight dayes till the lyme bee cleane wroght out of them.

The Lyme being cleine wroght out of the hydes, they are then to bee broght to the wouſeis of the Barke-pottes, of which pottes everie Barker muſt haue at the leaſt fyve or ſax, two for lopping, and the reſt for handling, and the pottes for lopping muſt bee ſeaven foote long fyue foote deepe, and fyue foote braide, and the pottes for handling one yaird ſquare euerie way lyned with timber or ſtone, as the com-

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A PROCLAMATION ANENT
Tanning and Barking of Hydes.

IAMES by the grace of GOD King of great Britanne, France, and Ireland: defender of the Faith, to Our Loveds Messingers, Our Shirefs in that part, conjunctlie and severallie specialie constitute; greeting, Forsamekle, As WEE out of Our Princelie and tender regaird towards the honour credite and benefite of this Our ancient Kingdome, having euer had a speciall caire and regaird that the practize of Trades not formarlie knowne or truelie and vprightlie practized within the same, might bee broght in; and that Our Subjects might be instructed therein, to the intent that by their industrie skill and labours the Cuntrie might bee furnished within the selfe with many necessar commodities, whereof now a great part are broght from foraine parts to the discredite of this Our Kingdome and emptying of the same of a great deale of Treasure yeerlie exported for that cause: Amongst others Our Royall and Princelie projects in this kynd, which haue all had one happie and good successe. WEE were pleased vpon one Petition exhibite vnto WS in Our Soveraine and high Court of Parliament, Concerning the vniversall abuse in Tanning and Barking of Leather throughout this Our whole Kingdome, To recommend to the Lords of Our Privie Counsell the order taking for reforming of the said abuse. Wherevpon the saids Lords having taking some paines and travells for trying of the said abuse and the ground and occasions of the same; And they having at length conferred thereanent as weell with a number of the principall Tanners of this Our Kingdome of best judgement, knowledge and experience, in that trade, as with sundrie Cordonars of good fame and credite: And all the particulars which might produce a cleare discoverie of the said abuse and occasions thereof, with the meanes how the same might bee reformed being amplie proposed reasoned and discussed, In end IT was found by the saids Lords out of their owne reason and judgement, and by the declaration and confession of the Tanners them selfes, that the abuse and corruptions of their trade did proceed from their owne ignorance and want of skill, in the trew and perfyte forme of Tanning: And that therefore there was a necessitie of inbringing of Strangers to instruct them thereintill. Wherevpon the saids Lords having entered in deliberation how the strangers might bee broght in; In end the charge thereof was embraced and vndertaken by Our traist Cousing and Counsaller IOHNE Lord ERSKENE who hath verie cairefullie behaved him selfe therein, and hath broght in and exhibite before the saids Lords the persons particularlie vnderwritten; They are to say, *George Haraſon* in Durham. *Nicolas Richardſon* there. *Cuthbert Hutcheſon* elder there. *Edward Craiges* there. *Cuthbert Hutcheſon* younger there. *Ihon Robeſon* there. *Thomas Dobieſon* there. *Thomas Dobieſon* younger there. *Robert Haſard* there. and *George Lambert* there. *Iohn Heroun* in Hexem. *Reynold Milbourn* there. *Harie Tweddaill*, there. *Thomas VVallace* there. *George Ogill* there. *Philip Shilton* of Chester of the street. and *George VVilſoun* in Morpet. Which whole persons are all of good skill knowledge and experience in the trade of Tanning. And vpon their great Oaths they haue promised to deale faithfullie and trewlie with the Tanners of this Our Kingdome, And to instruct them in the right forme of Tanning, and how to dresse their pottes. Lyke as they haue sett doune some grounds how the Hydes shall bee dreſt and handled, from the tyme they are broght from the Boutcheour, vntill they bee perfytlie and weell Tanned.

AS namelie they haue declared that there is a great abuse committed by the Boutcheours, by slashing of the Hydes and cutting of some of the Rimme away, whereby a part of the substance of the hydes is taken away and the hydes are thereby the more apt to receiue water.

IT is requisite that everie Tanner having a good Stock shall haue Two lyme-pottes at the least, for changing of the hydes from one potte to another, To witt, One for greene leather, and the other for Rype leather: But if his Stock will not answere to Two pottes, then hee must refresh the Lyme the oftner; And those pottes are to bee of Sax, or Seaven foote in length, Foure foote in breadth, and foure or fyve foote deepe.

The Hydes being brought from the Boutcheour to the Tanner, they are to be casten in fresh watter there to lye three or foure dayes, till the bloode and filth bee sucked out and taken away.

Thereafter they are to bee put in a Lyme-potte, there to lye fyve or sax weekes till they bee sufficientlie lymed, And three dayes euerie weeke they are to be handled and sighted and changed from potte to potte for eschuing of putrifactioun, And being taken out of the lyme-pottes, they are to bee casten in fresh water there to lye one day or one night, till the lyme bee washin of, Thereafter they are to bee put in a baitte of fresh watter with pigeon or Dow-dung, or Hen-pen, there to lye eight dayes till the lyme bee cleane wroght out of them.

The Lyme being cleine wroght out of the hydes, they are then to bee broght to the wouseis of the Barke-pottes, of which pottes everie Barker must haue at the least fyve or sax, two for lopping, and the rest for handling, and the pottes for lopping must bee seaven foote long fyue foote deepe, and fyue foote braide, and the pottes for handling one yaird square euerie way lyned with timber or stone, as the com-

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The Hydes being broght to the Bark-pottes and wouſeis, they are to bee chifted and handled from one potte to another, to witt, from a worſe to a better everie thrid day or oftner as the occaſion preſenteth, till they bee ſufficientlie Tanned: And the wouſeis are made of water and Bark, and of the Bark which the Tanners of this Our Kingdome caſt foorth of their Bark-pottes, the Engliſh Tanners make their beſt wouſeis and liquour with ſome litle refreſhing and renewing.

And the Hyde for over-leather muſt lye twentie foure weekes in the Bark-potte, And the Hyde for ſole-leather twentie eight weekes, or leſſe if the leather bee weell followed at the diſcretion of the Owner.

The hydes being ſufficientlie Tanned and taken out of the Barck-pottes, they are then to bee dryed with the Aër, to wit they muſt bee hung vp vpon ſparres to bee dryed in convenient places according as the ſeaſon and weather falleth out, and they are to bee keipt from raine, and neuer to bee dryed by fyre but vpon plane neceſſitie, and in drying of the hydes all violent and extreame heates ar to bee eſchewed.

Many other thinges haue they declared concerning the trew and perfyte forme of Tanning, the particulars whereof will bee better vnderſtood by practize and ſight, then by verball informations and diſcourſes.

And whereas thoſe Strangers haue left their owne Cuntrie houſes and families, and are come heere to bee directed to the ſeverall pairtes of this Our Kingdome for inſtructing of the cuntrie People in the right forme of Tanning, which will prove verie gainefull vnto them and profitable to Our whole cuntrie, And will not onlie ſpaire a great deale of Barck which is vnneceſſarie, vnprofitablie, and vnworthelie, ſpent by them, but beſyds will hold a great deale of money within this Our Kingdome; which is yeerly exported for inbringing of forrain leather.

Therefore it is verie neceſſar and expedient for the honour and credite of this Our Kingdome, that the ſaids perſons ſhall not onlie bee kyndlie and freindlie vſed with all reſpect favour and ductie that apperteineth; but that they haue ſome Privileges and liberties in the ſaid trade, during the tyme of their abode heir for the better inco[illegible]ging them to deale faithfullie and truelie in the earand they are co[illegible]or. And ſiklyke it is verie neceſſar that the Tanners and Barckers of this Our Kingdome bee cairefull and diligent to receiue tymous inſtruction from the ſaids *Englishmen*, to the intent that betwix and the Terme appoynted for Sealling of the ſaids Hydes, they may haue good knowledge and experience in the ſaid trade. And for effect, WEE with the adviſe of the Lords of Our ſecreet Counſell HAUE taken and by the tennor heirof TAKES the ſaids perſons and everie one of them vnder Our Protection, Defence, and Saif-gaird, to be vnharmed or troubled in their perſons or goods for whatſomeuer deid or occaſion otherwayes then by cõmoun courſe of Law and Juſtice. And ſicklyk WEE with adviſe foreſaid Haue Given and granted and by the tennor hereof Gives and grantes full libertie priviledge licence and warrand to the perſones aboue-written and everie one of them To vſe the trade of Tanning in the ſeverall parts and places of this Our Kingdome where they ſhall happen to bee directed and ſend in maner following, to witt, they ſhall concurre with the Tanners within theſe parts and Joyne with them in the Tanning and dreſſing of their Leather, and they ſhall make vſe of their Lyme and Barck-pottes, And ſhall lay their hydes in the ſame pottes with the hydes of the Barkers of thoſe pairts, and ſhall handle and dreſſe the whole hydes in the pottes indifferentlie and and with a commune and equale reſpect and conſideration: By the which doing the Tanners of this Our Kingdome, if they bee willing or capable of Inſtruction may haue good occaſion to learne and to bee inſtructed in ſhort tyme in the true knowledge of the ſaid trade.

OUR WILL IS herefore, and WEE charge you ſtraitlie and commands that incontinent thoſe Our Letters ſeene, Yee paſſe to the Market Croces of the Head Burrowes of this Our Kingdome and others places needfull; And there by oppen Proclamation, and in Our Name and Auctoritie make publication of the premiſſes wherethrogh none pretend ignorance of the ſame: And that yee command charge and inhibite all and ſundrie Our Lieges and Subjects that none of them preſoome nor take vpon hand To vex harme moleſt trouble or inquyet, the perſons particularlie aboue written or any one of them, But to vſe them with all reſpects of freindſhip and kyndnes, in all parts where they ſhall happen to repaire, As they and everie one of them will anſwer to WS and Our Counſell vpon their obedience at their higheſt charge and perrell. And ſicklyk that yee command and charge The whole Barckers and Tanners of leather within this Our Kingdome that they and everie one of them betwix and the firſt day of September next to come, Provyde them ſelfes with the number of Lyme and Barck-pottes aboue-written, And that they dreſſe and handle their Hydes both in the Lyme and Barck-pots according to the forme rewles and ground ſet doun and to be præſcryved vnto them: And for this effect that they bee cairfull and diligent to receiue inſtruction from the perſons particularlie aboue-written, And to conforme them ſelfes to their directions and informations aswell in the dreſſing and handling their hydes which are preſentlie in their pottes, as anent the hydes which ſhall bee put in the ſame hereafter.

And if any perſon or perſons out of malice and in contempt of this Our Ordinance and of purpoſe to hinder the progreſſe of this work, which will prove ſo profitable to the whole Cuntrie ſhall happen to leave of the ſaid trade for ſome certaine ſpace with reſolution to return thereto againe at their pleaſure and as they ſhall find the occaſion. That therefore yee intimat and declare to all Our Lieges that everie ſuch perſone or perſons who ſhall bee tryed to offend in this caſe, ſhall be called before the Lords of Our Privie Counſell and puniſhed by them at their diſcretion. And whereas it is vnderſtand to the ſaids Lords of Our Privie Counſell that the Tanners of this Kingdome may haue ſufficient tyme and leaſour to learne the ſaid trade of Tanning and Barcking of leather in ane vpright and perfyte forme (if they be willing) betwix and the firſt day of November in the yeere of God Jaj vjc xxj yeeres. Which is the tearme appointed by Our ſaid Counſell when the Sealing of the Hydes for approoving of the ſufficiencie of the ſame ſhall beginne. Therefore that yee intimat and declaire to all the Barkers and Tanners of Hydes within this Our Kingdome, that all and whatſomever hydes that ſhall happen to bee preſented to Market, ſauld or put in work without the Seale after the ſaid firſt day of November in the yeere of God Jaj Sax hundreth and twentie one yeeres. ſhall bee confiſcate and eſcheat to the vſe and behoue of him who hath the charge and truſt of the Seale. The which to doe WEE commit to you you conjunctlie and ſeverallie Our full power By thoſe Our letters, delivering the ſame by you duelie execute and indorſed againe to the Bearer. Given vnder Our Signet, At *Haly-rud-houſe* the twentie nyne day of Junij and of Our Reignes the fiftie thrie and eighteen yeeres.

Per Actum D. Secreti Conſilij.

1620. Ordeined to bee publiſhed in print.

EDINBVRGH,

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